

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated August 7, 2007, Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks.

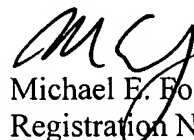
As a preliminary matter, Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-8 of the instant application are allowable and further indicating that claims 9-18 of the divisional reissue application (Reissue Application Serial Number 11/504,091) are also allowable. To this end and in accordance with the instructions from the Examiner and 37 C.F.R. § 1.177(c), Applicants respectfully request that claims 9-18 of the divisional reissue application be merged with claims 1-8 of the instant application. For the Examiner's convenience and ease of reference, Applicants have provided above the listing of claims that includes allowed claims 1-8 of the instant application and allowed claims 9-18 (renumbered as claims 16-25) of the divisional reissue application.

Applicants submit that all claims are in condition of allowance. Therefore, a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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